

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 USIE-00 FEAE-00 EB-08 PM-04
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 NEA-10 COME-00 INT-05 TRSE-00
OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01
H-01 /079 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6238
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

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DEPARTMENT PASS USIA

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, OPEC, VE, TU, US
SUBJECT: VENEZUELAN EMBASSY PRESS RELEASE CONTESTS ENERGY STATEMENTS
IN AMBASSADOR MACOMBER'S SPEECH

1. VENEZUELAN EMBASSY IN ANKARA ISSUED PRESS RELEASE JANUARY 19
(RECEIVED AT AMEMBASSY JANUARY 29), EXPRESSING ITS DISAGREEMENT
WITH SOME STATEMENTS ON ENERGY WHICH APPEARED IN WHAT VENEZUELAN
STATEMENT IDENTIFIED AS USIS ANKARA PRESS RELEASE O.T.-77-I-1/12.
USIS RELEASE CONTAINED TEXT OF SPEECH GIVEN BY AMBASSADOR MACOMBER
JANUARY 15 IN ISTANBUL BEFORE TURKISH INDUSTRIALISTS AND BUSI-
NESSMEN'S ASSOCIATION. SPEECH WAS WELL RECEIVED AND DEALT
MAINLY WITH US-TURKISH RELATIONS.

2. ECONOMIC SEGMENT OF SPEECH DISCUSSED SEVERAL CHALLENGES OF
FUTURE (PROBLEMS OF WORLD ECONOMIC RECOVERY, NEED FOR COOPERATIVE
NORTH-SOUTH RELATIONSHIP, FOOD DEFICITS), INCLUDING FOLLOWING
SECTION ON ENERGY, DERIVED LARGELY FROM SPEECH BY FORMER UNDER
SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS ROGERS (CURRENT POLICY, NO. 16,
NOVEMBER 1976):

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QUOTE . . . WORLD DEPENDENCE ON PETROLEUM AS A SOURCE OF
ENERGY MUST BE REDUCED THROUGH CONSERVATION AND THROUGH
DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES.
QUOTE. THE OPEC PRICE RISE ANNOUNCED IN DECEMBER WILL ADD
ROUGHLY SEVERAL BILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY TO THE GLOBAL
OIL IMPORT BILL. AND, SURELY, BOTH YOUR COUNTRY AND MINE
WILL BE AFFECTED.

QUOTE. THE RESULT WILL BE TO HOLD DOWN NON-PETROLEUM IMPORTS OF THE OIL-IMPORTING COUNTRIES, INCREASE THE COST OF THE ENERGY COMPONENT OF ALL WE CONSUME AND ADD TO INFLATIONARY PRESSURES WORLDWIDE.

QUOTE. THE WEAKER ECONOMIES IN THE OECD AREA, AND PARTICULARLY THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES OF THE "FOURTH WORLD", WILL BE THE MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED. AND THESE ARE THE COUNTRIES WHICH CAN LEAST COPE WITH AN ADDITIONAL SHOCK NOW.

QUOTE. BUT PERHAPS MORE SERIOUS THAN THE ABILITY OF A FEW OIL-SUPPLYING NATIONS TO CONTROL PRICE IS THEIR ABILITY TO CONTROL SUPPLY.

QUOTE. AS A RESULT, THE CATEGORIC NEED TO REDUCE OUR DEPENDENCE IS AN AREA TO WHICH WE MUST GIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION. IN TRUTH, THOUGH, REDUCING THE AMOUNT OF OIL IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED STATES -- OR INTO TURKEY OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY FOR THAT MATTER--IS ONLY A SHORT-RUN SOLUTION TO THE WORLD'S ENERGY PROBLEM.

QUOTE. THE ULTIMATE SOLUTION, WHICH WE MUST PURSUE WITH GREAT URGENCY, IS TO DIVERSIFY SOURCES OF SUPPLY AND DEVELOP ALTERNATIVE TYPES OF ENERGY.

QUOTE. THESE LONGER-TERM ISSUES CONCERN THE OVER-ALL ADEQUACY OF THE WORLD'S SUPPLY OF OIL AND HOW WE MAKE THE TRANSITION TO THE POST-OIL AGE. ALL COUNTRIES WILL HAVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO COOPERATE AND COORDINATE THEIR POLICIES, AND SHARE THEIR TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE IF THIS TRANSITION IS TO BE MADE EFFECTIVELY. UNQUOTE.

3. LANGUAGE OF VENEZUELAN RELEASE CHARACTERIZES AMBASSADOR'S SPEECH (WHICH IT DOES NOT IDENTIFY AS SUCH BUT ONLY AS USIS RELEASE O.T.-77-I-1/12) AS "ANOTHER STEP ON THE CONTINUOUS CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE OPEC MEMBER COUNTRIES" AND AS "LIVING PROOF OF THE ABILITY OF A FEW DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO MANIPULATE INFORMATION". VENEZUELAN ALSO MENTION "THE SELFISH INTEREST OF THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES" AND ALLUDE TO "AN INTERNATIONAL INTRIGUE, ENCOURAGED BY THE MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES AND SOME DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, SPREADING THE LEGEND THAT THE OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR WORLD INFLATION".

4. FIVE-PAGE VENEZUELAN STATEMENT ALLEGES THAT PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL AND ENERGY MINISTER KILIC HAVE DECLARED THAT TURKEY WILL NOT BE AFFECTED BY RECENT OIL PRICE

INCREASES, LARGELY DUE TO INAUGURATION OF KIRKUK-ISKENERUN OIL PIPELINE. EMBASSY NEWS FILES SHOW THAT MINISTER KILIC STATED DECEMBER 31 THAT INCOME FROM THE TURKISH-IRAQI PIPELINE PROJECT "WOULD HELP TO PREVENT THE REFLECTION OF HIGHER PRICES ON THE CONSUMER". THIS MEANS THAT LOWER TRANSPORT COSTS WILL HELP COMPENSATE FOR HIGHER CRUDE OIL PRICES. IT DOES NOT MEAN THAT TURKEY WILL NOT PAY HIGHER OIL PRICES. GOT ANNOUNCED, IN FACT, THAT IT WOULD ABSORB PRICE HIKE AND NOT PASS IT ON TO CONSUMER, A DECISION ON WHICH WE UNDERSTAND GOVERNMENT IS PRESENTLY WAVERING.

5. PRESS RELEASE SPENDS THREE PAGES ARGUING AGAINST TWO POINTS WHICH AMBASSADOR NEVER MADE -- THAT OPEC IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL ECONOMIC MALADJUSTMENTS OF INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AND THAT INCREASES IN PRICE OF OIL HAVE BEEN SLE CAUSE OF WORLD INFLATION. RELEASE CALLS FIRST POINT A "LIE" LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT "CANNOT BE PERMITTED".

6. RELEASE ENDS WITH RINGING PERORATION THAT ATTEMPTS TO ENLIST TURKISH SUPPORT FOR VENEZUELA'S (AND OPEC'S) POSITION: "AND EXACTLY AS VENEZUELA DEFENDS HER OIL IN ORDER TO PREVENT THIS EXCEPTIONAL SOURCE OF ENERGY FROM BEING WASTED . . . SHE WILL SUPPORT THE TURKISH RIGHT TO DEFEND HER NATURAL RESOURCES FROM THE UNFAIR TREATMENT IMPOSED BY THE GREAT COUNTRIES. THE INTERESTS OF TURKEY AND VENEZUELA ARE UNITED ON THE QUEST FOR A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER."

7. PRESS HAS NOT USED VENEZUELAN MATERIAL YET TO OUR KNOWLEDGE.

8. RELEASE WAS APPARENTLY DISTRIBUTED TO A NUMBER OF EMBASSIES AS WELL AS TO THE PRESS. SO FAR IT SEEMS TO HAVE HAD AS LITTLE IMPACT WITH THEM AS WITH THE PRESS. TO DATE, ONLY TWO EMBASSIES HAVE COMMENTED TO US. BOTH HAVE DISPARAGED VENEZUELAN RELEASE AND ONE (ANOTHER LATIN AMERICAN AMBASSADOR ASSIGNED HERE) HAS CHARACTERIZED IT AS A "FOOLISH STATEMENT". GENERAL BELIEF IS THAT RELEASE IS A PRODUCT OF VENEZUELAN EMBASSY'S UNDER-EMPLOYMENT IN ANKARA AND ITS AMBASSADOR NESTOR COLL BLASINI'S POSTURING FOR HOME-OFFICE CONSUMPTION.

9. EMBASSY DOES NOT INTEND TO RESPOND TO VENEZUELAN PRESS RELEASE.
MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, POLICIES, PRESS RELEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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TAGS: ENRG, VE, TU, US, OPEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/dea7b5cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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